

**Listing of the Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A device for transporting a horizontal stack, the stack formed in a gathering device with upright, lined-up signatures, from a stack support to an intermediate deposit, the device comprising:

a horizontally and vertically displaceable clamp arranged above the stack support, wherein the clamp compresses the stack at the ends of the stack and transfers a strapped stack from the stack support to an adjacent intermediate deposit.

2. (Original) The device according to claim 1, wherein the clamp comprises two clamping jaws, and the device further comprises a support frame wherein the clamp can be displaced along the support frame in a first conveying direction from the stack support to the intermediate deposit.

3. (Original) The device according to claim 2, wherein the intermediate deposit is an automatic palletizer.

4. (Original) The device according to claim 2, further comprising a movable bridge support, wherein the clamp is suspended from the movable bridge support and can be displaced transversely to the first conveying direction along the movable bridge support.

5. (Original) The device according to claim 2, further comprising a vertical swiveling post, around which the clamp swivels.

6. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 4, wherein the ends of the movable bridge support are provided with roller supports, which are connected to the support frame.

7. (Original) The device according to claim 6, wherein the movable bridge support is operatively connected to at least one endlessly circulating traction means.

8. (Original) The device according to claim 7, further comprising: two traction means for moving the movable bridge support along the roller supports; and a motor having a joint drive shaft attached to the support frame, wherein the traction means are toothed belts, which are operatively connected via the joint drive shaft.

9. (Original) The device according to claim 4, further comprising a support that extends below the movable bridge support in a transverse direction to the first conveying direction and that is operable in a vertical direction, wherein the clamping jaws of the clamp are attached so as to be adjustable to the support.

10. (Original) The device according to claim 9, wherein the support is connected to an operating device that is attached to the movable bridge support and is height-adjustable.

11. (Original) The device according to claim 9, wherein at least one of the clamping jaws of the clamp on the support is movable.

12. (Original) The device according to claim 11, wherein the clamping jaw is positioned opposite the movable clamping jaw, and is assigned to the stack end opposite the stack forming direction.

13. (Currently Amended) A device for transporting a horizontal stack, formed in a gathering device with upright, lined-up signatures, from a stack support to an intermediate deposit, the device comprising:

a horizontally and vertically movable clamp arranged above the stack support, wherein the clamp compresses the stack at ~~the~~ ends of the stack and transfers the stack from the stack support via an adjacent strapping station to a following intermediate deposit.

14. (Original) The device according to claim 13, wherein the clamp comprises two clamping jaws, and the device further comprises a support frame wherein the clamp can be displaced along the support frame in a first conveying direction from the stack support to the intermediate deposit.

15. (Original) The device according to claim 14, wherein the intermediate deposit is an automatic palletizer.

16. (Original) The device according to claim 14, further comprising a movable bridge support, wherein the clamp is suspended from the movable bridge support and can be displaced transversely to the first conveying direction along the movable bridge support.

17. (Original) The device according to claim 14, further comprising a vertical swiveling post, around which the clamp swivels.

18. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 16, wherein the ends of the movable bridge support are provided with roller supports, which are connected to the support frame.

19. (Original) The device according to claim 18, wherein the movable bridge support is operatively connected to at least one endlessly circulating traction means.

20. (Original) The device according to claim 19, further comprising: two traction means for moving the movable bridge support along the roller supports; and a motor having a joint drive shaft attached to the support frame, wherein the traction means are toothed belts, which are operatively connected via the joint drive shaft.

21. (Original) The device according to claim 16, further comprising a support that extends below the movable bridge support in a transverse direction to the first conveying direction and that is operable in a vertical direction, wherein the clamping jaws of the clamp are attached so as to be adjustable to the support.

22. (Original) The device according to claim 21, wherein the support is connected to an operating device that is attached to the movable bridge support and is height-adjustable.

23. (Original) The device according to claim 21, wherein at least one of the clamping jaws of the clamp on the support is movable.

Applicant: Christof KELLER  
Application No. 10/609,372

24. (Original) The device according to claim 23, wherein the clamping jaw is positioned opposite the movable clamping jaw, and is assigned to the stack end opposite the stack forming direction.